

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 351

CONFIDENTIAL TEHRAN 1761

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: USIRJC

SUBJECT: U.S. -IRAN JOINT COMMISSION; POSSIBLE AGREEMENTS IN MANPOWER AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION

REFS: A. TEHRAN 1617 B. TEHRAN 1620 C. TEHRAN 1575

1. LABOR UNDERSECRETARY FEREIDUN NASSERI, WHO WILL PARTICIPATE IN MARCH 3-4, 1975 USIRJC MEETING, STATED FEBRUARY 19 TO EMBASSY LABOR REPORTING OFFICER THAT MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS ANSARY HAD DIRECTED HIM TO DRAFT LANGUAGE FOR AGREEMENTS TO BE REACHED ON MANPOWER AND RELATED PROJECTS. NASSERI SEES FOUR POSSIBLE PROJECTS INVOLVING U.S. GOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION AND TWO OTHER AREAS FOR U.S. FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE UNDER TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT (TCA). NASSERI ALSO STATED PRIVATELY THAT HE WANTS TO RECOMMEND THAT LETTER OF INTENT BE SIGNED IN NEAR FUTURE WITH ONE OF U.S. FIRMS BIDDING ON PROVISION OF 100-150 MOBILE VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTERS. HE HAD HAD MEETING THAT MORNING WITH MR. DIAMOND OF THIKOL CORPORATION WHICH MAY NOW BE IN PICTURE ALONG WITH HOFFMAN AND BENDIX-ATLANTIC.

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2. FOUR PROJECTS MENTIONED WERE FIXED AND MOBILE VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTERS; MINISTRY OF LABOR PROGRAMS

(GROUPING EMPLOYMENT SERVICE, UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, AND LABOR STATISTICS); OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH, AND TRAINING OF IRANIAN TECHNICIANS FROM SEVERAL SPECIALTIES IN THE U.S. TWO AREAS FOR FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE (AS OPPOSED TO EXPERTS/SOFTWARE/HARDWARE) WERE PRIVATE SECTOR TO PRIVATE SECTOR CONTACTS(E.G. NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF BUSINESSMEN TO IRANIAN CHAMBER OF MINES AND INDUSTRIES) AND ACCESS TO U.S. LABOR MARKET THROUGH COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS WITH FEDERAL AND STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICES.

3. WHILE UNABLE THIS STAGE TO PUT PRICE TAG ON ALL THESE PROGRAMS, NASSERI MENTIONED ROUND FIGURE BUDGETS OF \$20-30 MILLION FOR MOBILE VOCATIONAL CENTERS, \$200 MILLION FOR TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOLS, AND \$50 MILLION FOR VOCATIONAL INSTRUCTOR TRAINING SCHOOLS (10).

4. WHILE EXPRESSING PLEASURE WITH GENERAL U.S. RESPONSIVENESS, NASSERI HAS CONCLUDED THAT U.S. LESS INTERESTED IN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH PROJECT AND IN ASSISTANCE TO LABOR STATISTICS PROGRAM HERE THAN IN OTHER MENTIONED AREAS. HE ALSO DOES NOT THINK IT FEASIBLE, AFTER LAST MEETING OF MANPOWER AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION COMMITTEE IN WASHINGTON, TO CONCLUDE AGREEMENT WITH U.S. EMPLOYMENT SERVICE FOR DELIVERY OF X-NUMBER OF U.S. PROFESSIONALS AND TECHNICIANS AND THUS PREFERS TO APPROACH THIS SUBJECT FROM POINT OF VIEW OF INFORMATIONAL EXCHANGE ONLY.

5. NASSERI WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT COMMENTS ON THE ABOVE AS HE PREPARES HIS DRAFT FOR ANSARY. REFTEL A, PARAGRAPH TWO, INDICATES THAT U.S. IS TO PREPARE DRAFT MINUTES, UNDER EACH AGENDA HEADING, MUCH AS NASSERI IS NOW DOING. U.S. DRAFT ON MANPOWER-TECHNICAL COOPERATION MIGHT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE LINES ALONG WHICH NASSERI NOW SEEMS TO BE WORKING.

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